

# THE MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB, INC.

The World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Club

AFFILIATED WITH  
THE AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE, INC.



CHARTERED AS  
A NON-STOCK CORPORATION BY THE  
STATE OF WISCONSIN

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

November 15, 1983

Mr. David Knaus  
ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator  
6237 West Lincoln Creek Drive  
Milwaukee, WI 53218

Dear Dave:

Our club President, Dave DeFebo, WB9BWP, has asked me to reply to your letter of September 5, 1983, and to seek more information on the ARRL Special Service Club program.

Beyond a title, just what does the League plan to do for 'Special Service Clubs'? What would be the criteria for evaluating a club in each of the six areas listed in your letter? And who would do this? Does the League propose to absorb any of the costs of operating such programs?

I am sure that you know that it is extremely difficult for most amateur radio clubs to obtain the volunteers to do the work needed to handle the regular activities of the club. MRAC runs no profit making activities and operates on very meager dues and donations from our membership.

The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, Inc., is the oldest affiliate of the ARRL and is the oldest continuously active amateur radio club in existence today. This also results in our carrying a large load of elderly members, spread over the whole nation, members too old to participate in club activities, too old to attend meetings and club functions, and, yes, some too old to venture out at night. And we have no intention of abandoning these elderly the present club is loaded with.

Face it, MRAC has been a 'Very Special Service Club' for a long time. We know of no other Wisconsin amateur radio group that offers classroom instruction for each of the five grades of amateur licenses to any interested person, membership in our club not being required! In our 1982 classes 82% of the students were not even members of our club. That's our idea of promoting amateur radio.

The Board of Directors of MRAC would be interested in answers to all the questions mentioned above.

Yours very truly,

Christopher Welton, WD9GZL,  
Member, Board of Directors, MRAC

cc-Officers-Directors-Business Mgr

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